

U.S. Presidential Candidates' Views on Climate Change

Barack Obama

Obama says the United States is responsible for leaving the planet in better shape for future generations. His plan would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, implement a market-based cap-and-trade system to reduce carbon emissions by 80 percent by 2050, set a national standard for low-carbon fuels and increase fuel efficiency standards, reduce gasoline consumption through expanded use of renewable energy sources and invest in advanced technologies for clean energy projects. He would create a Technology Transfer program within the U.S. Department of Energy dedicated to exporting climate-friendly technologies to developing countries. He would also develop incentives to reward farmers and ranchers when they plant trees and restore grasslands.



Hillary Clinton



Clinton says global climate change is a pressing moral issue of our time and supports policies to reduce carbon dioxide and other emissions that contribute to global warming. She would develop a new treaty to replace the Kyoto Protocol, which is set to expire in 2012. She proposes to invest in clean energy technologies, establish a national market-based program to reduce pollution that causes global warming, increase fuel efficiency, and strengthen U.S. leadership in addressing climate

change. She would also focus the mission of the U.S. Department of Energy on moving toward energy independence with a new approach to renewable energy sources.

John McCain

McCain would limit carbon dioxide emissions by harnessing market forces to bring advanced technologies like nuclear energy to market faster, reduce dependence on foreign energy supplies and ensure that all nations contribute to the climate change solution. He was lead author of a U.S. Senate proposal to reduce carbon emissions by 65 percent by 2050 and believes climate change is a national security issue.



Mike Huckabee



When asked during a 2007 Republican Party primary debate if he believed global warming existed, Huckabee said that whether humans are responsible for the bulk of climate change is going to be left to the scientists, but it is our responsibility to leave this planet in better shape for the future generations than we found it. Huckabee proposes to explore, conserve and develop all forms of alternative energy to achieve U.S. energy independence. He would set a federal research and development budget that the private sector would match to seek the best, new, alternative fuel products.